

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

<b>DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION</b>		<b>NUMBER:</b>  1042-139
<b>SUBJECT:</b>  Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee	DATE July 22, 2002	
	OPI: Agricultural Marketing Service	

1 PURPOSE

- a The Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee (Committee) is hereby established. The purpose of the Committee is to examine the full spectrum of fruit and vegetable issues and provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the industry's needs.
- b This Committee is in the public interest in view of the fruit and vegetable industry's importance to the nation's economy. The exchange of views and information between industry representatives and USDA should result in improved understanding of the impact of USDA programs on the fruit and vegetable industry and contribute to those programs' effective and efficient administration.

2 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- a In accordance with USDA regulations, unless renewed, the Committee will terminate two years from the date of filing of the charter.
- b This regulation cancels and revises the original charter created in Department Regulation 1042-139 dated August 6, 2001 in order to increase the "Membership" in Section 3c.

3 OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP

- a The members of the Committee will elect the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Committee who will serve for a 2-year term. In absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson will act in the Chairperson's stead. The Deputy Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service's Fruit and Vegetable Programs will serve as the Committee's Executive Secretary.

- b Representatives from USDA mission areas and agencies affecting the fruit and vegetable industry will be called upon to participate in the Committee's meetings as determined by the Committee Chairperson.
- c Members shall be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture for 2-year terms. Up to 25 members shall be appointed including at least: 7 representing fresh fruit and vegetable growers/shippers; 4 representing fresh fruit and vegetable wholesalers; 2 representing brokers; 2 representing retailers; 4 representing fruit and vegetable processors and fresh cut processors; 2 representing foodservice suppliers; 1 representing a State agriculture department; and 1 representing a trade association. No member shall serve more than six consecutive years on the Committee if it is renewed.
- d Equal opportunity practices in accordance with USDA policies will be followed in all appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership shall include to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

#### 4 DUTIES

The duties of the Committee are solely advisory. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture regarding how USDA programs affect the fruit and vegetable industry.

#### 5 ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

- a Members of the Committee shall serve without compensation, but with reimbursement of travel expenses and per diem in lieu of subsistence.
- b Annual operating costs are estimated at \$60,000. Annual Federal staff support is estimated at 0.25 staff years.

#### 6 NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

It is anticipated that the Committee will meet annually. All meetings will be open to the public.

## 7 REPORTS/SUPPORT

- a Support for the Committee will be provided by AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.
- b The Committee will report to the Secretary of Agriculture through the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.